

Spring is here again and the Heritage Centre re opens on Monday, 1 April for its sixth summer season welcoming visitors to Colyton.

Colyton's colourful historic past has attracted significant media interest recently. A BBC 1 'One Show' film crew visited in early March to report on and interview local residents about the town's non-conformist and rebellious history - from its participation in the Monmouth Rebellion to the Laundry Revolt last year. The East Devon Floods Remembered exhibition attracted large numbers to the Town Hall on Wednesday, 27 March and an ITV film crew covered the event.

Sarah Charman, Editor

1. News

a. Heritage Centre re-opens

The Heritage Centre opens its doors for a sixth summer season on Monday, 1 April. Opening times are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10 am to 4.00 pm and Wednesday and Saturday from 10 am to 1.00 pm.

There is a delightful new display of lace items kindly loaned by Allhallows Lace Museum in Honiton. And much work has been done over the winter to reorganise the information held in the Centre. Do come and see for yourself: you will be warmly welcomed by our enthusiastic volunteers.

b. Town Hall packed for East Devon Floods Remembered Exhibition

An exhibition of photographs, maps and written material put together by the Environment Agency, with additional material from the History Society's own archive, attracted large numbers of visitors to Colyton Town Hall on Wednesday 27 March.

The Hall was packed with locals and visitors pouring over the photographs of flooded fields and destroyed houses. Children from the Primary School spent some time looking at the displays while older residents animatedly shared their personal memories and recollections of the severe floods in 1960 and 1968. Others were intrigued to find information about the impact of the floods on their own Colyton properties. The Emergency Planning Committee of the Parish Council also had a display stand encouraging people to volunteer their services in the event of a local emergency. Delicious tea and cakes were served by volunteers collecting for the Colyton lights appeal.



A short walk around some of the areas in Colyton which suffered most from the flooding, led by Chris Khan from the Environment Agency and Marian Sydenham, Chairman of Colyton Parish History Society, enabled participants to get a real insight into the devastating impact of those floods on the community at the time.



c. Stop Press - Exciting historic finds – There have been some interesting finds of historic coins and jewellery in the area recently. More information in next month's newsletter!

2. CPHS Matters -

a. 2019 CPHS talks programme

The last session in our CPHS 2019 programme of talks and events before the summer break will be:

- **Wednesday, 24 April** at 7.30 pm will mark St George's Day and Shakespeare's birthday with an **'Evening of Music and Verse'** by **Adrienne Hesketh** at Colyford Memorial Hall
- **Wednesday, 25 September** at 7.30 pm there will be a talk on **'Devon and Dorset Migration in the 1800's'** by **Jane Ferentzi** at Colyton Town Hall
- **Wednesday, 23 October** at 7.30 pm a talk on **'Chard and Its Victorian Heritage'** by **Vince Lee** at Colyford Memorial Hall
- **Wednesday, 27 November** at 7.30 pm there will be a **'Coleridge Evening'** offered by the **Coleridge Society** from Ottery St Mary at Colyton Town Hall.

b. CPHS Annual Membership Fees due

- A gentle reminder to anyone who has not yet paid your annual membership subscription. Membership is £5 individual and £8 joint membership. Payment can be left at the Heritage Centre addressed to Mrs Sue Wooding, Treasurer, CPHS in cash, cheque made out to Colyton Parish History Society or by a BACS transfer or standing order into this account: Lloyds Bank, Sort Code 30-90-37, Account

00992240. You will also need to complete and return a GDPR (data protection) form. Please note that without your signature on the form we will be unable to email you a newsletter in future as without your signed agreement we can no longer hold your email details.